

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATIONS**

Please replace Paragraph [0006] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

**[0006]** The problem is solved by a fastener with the features of claim 1 and a method of making it according to the features of claim 13 or 14. ~~A use is also stated in the features of claim 15. Other advantageous~~ Advantageous embodiments of the invention which may be used singly or in combination are the subject of the respectively appended claims.

Please replace Paragraph [0007] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

**[0007]** The fastener according to the invention, particularly for fixing at least one flat component to a carrier member particularly with a definable or defined spacing, comprises a base member which has a supporting face and a fastening face, and a shank which may be arranged on the supporting face of the base member and is suitable for fixing the flat component. The fastener is ~~characterised~~ characterized in that the fastening face is smaller than the supporting face. The supporting face enables the flat component to lie against a relatively large face, which is advantageous particularly for thin metal sheets and does not necessarily exclude the mounting of components with offset holes.

Please replace Paragraph [0035] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0035] Fig. 1 is a sectional view of a first embodiment of a fastener 1 particularly adapted for fixing a flat, for example thick-walled, component 2 at a spacing 3 from a carrier member 4. The fastener 1 comprises a base member 5 with a supporting face 6 and a fastening face 8. It further comprises a shank 9 arranged on the supporting face 6 of the base member 5 and serving to fix the flat component. In the embodiment illustrated the fastener 1 has a supporting face 6 which is rotationally symmetrical. The fastening face 8 is smaller than the ~~bearing~~-supporting face 6. An annular form of the face 8 is shown in Fig. 1; this shape results in the formation of a cavity 20 internal the base member 5. The fastening face 8 is less than 65% of the supporting face 6.

Please replace Paragraph [0037] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0037] Fig. 2 shows an alternative embodiment of the fastener 1 according to the invention. In its mounted state the base member 5 is again connected to the carrier member 4 by the fastening face 8 by a jointing technique, particularly welding. The height 13 of the base member ~~45-5~~also defines the spacing 3 which is kept between, for example, a refractory wall 2 shown in broken lines and the carrier member 4. To facilitate the positioning of the shank 9 coaxially with the base member 5 the supporting face 6 of the latter has an edge 21 substantially corresponding to the external contour of

the shank 9. At the side remote from the base member 5 the shank 9 has a raised portion 17 which is shaped so that the flat component shown in broken lines is pressed against the supporting face 6 of the base member 5 and thus fixed. The raised portion 17 extends radially outwards and is peripheral, ensuring uniform introduction of force into the parts of the flat component in contact with it.